

Sub
C2
P2

31. (Amended) A process for producing colloidal particles having biomolecule absorbing surfaces, the process comprising:
adding a detergent to a solution containing biomolecules, and thereafter
contacting colloidal particles with the solution
wherein the colloidal particles are used without being previously treated to subdivide agglomerates.

Sub
C3
P3

34. (Amended) A method for stabilizing conjugates composed of colloidal particles and biomolecules, the method consisting essentially of:
adding detergent to a solution containing biomolecules,
loading colloidal particles with the solution, and thereafter
adding an additional stabilizer
wherein the colloidal particles are used without being previously treated to subdivide agglomerates.

REMARKS

The Office Action dated December 18, 2001 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

The Office Action rejects claims 24, 30, 31 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Liberti et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,597,531) claims 24, 29-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Olsen (U.S. Patent No. 5,393,658). Additionally, claims 25-29, 32